TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Brian W. Poor, Reg. No.: 32,928

Attorneys for Applicants

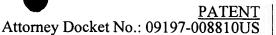
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

On 5-2-00

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Kim M Hopler





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Patrick Coleman et al.

Application No.: 09/515,014

Filed: February 29, 2000

For: SYNTHETIC ANTIGEN FOR THE

DETECTION OF ANTIBODIES IMMUNOREACTIVE WITH HIV

VIRUS

Examiner:

Not Assigned

Art Unit:

Not Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and

§1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

AA U.S. Patent No. 4,629,783 issued 12/16/86 to Cosand.

AB U.S. Patent No. 5,206,136 issued 04/27/93 to Monji et al.

- AC U.S. Patent No. 5,439,792 issued 08/08/95 to Blake et al.
- AD WO 83/02277
- AE EP 0 267 802
- AF Berent et al., "Comparison of Oligonucleotide and Long DNA Fragments as Probes in DNA and RNA Dot, Southern, Northern, Colony and Plaque Hybridizations," Biotechniques 3(3):208-219 (1985).
- AG Clavel et al., "Isolation of a New Human Retrovirus from West African Patients with AIDS," Science 233(4761):343-346 (1986).
- AH De Leys et al., "Isolation and Partial Characterization of an Unusual Human Immunodeficiency Retrovirus from Two Persons of West-Central African Origin," J. Virol 64(3):1207-1216 (1990).
- AI Gürtler et al., "A New Subtype of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 (MVP-5180) from Cameroon," J. Virol. 68(3):1581-1585 (1994).
- AJ Guyader et al., "Genome organization and transactivation of the human immunodeficiency virus type 2," Nature 326:662-669 (1987).
- AK Ratner et al., "Complete nucleotide sequence of the AIDS virus, HTLV-III," Nature 313:277-284 (1985).
- AL Tam et al., "SN2 Deprotection of Synthetic Peptides with a Low Concentration of HF in Dimethyl Sulfide: Evidence and Application in Peptide Synthesis,". Am. Chem. Soc. 105:6442-6455 (1983).

Applicants believe that <u>no fee is required</u> for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No.

20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the abovenoted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:_

Brian W. Poor Reg. No. 32,928

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834

Tel: 206-467-9600 Fax: 206-623-6793

BWP:kmg

SE 5003152 v1